From: The IACP
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Greetings Jeremy Grimes

Wednesday, June 26, 2019

POLICING & POLICY

Washington, DC Lawmakers Mull Tightening Rules On E-Scooters

The Washington Post (6/25, Lazo) reports that legislation being considered by the Washington, DC Council "aims to address the myriad complaints about e-scooter operations in the nation's capital, including that the devices are left everywhere, ridden where they shouldn't be and are a hazard to pedestrians." A bill introduced by Council member Mary M. Cheh "would set rules for where scooters can be parked, establish new speed limits and ban their use between 10 p.m. and 4 a.m." The legislation "would give the city transportation agency the authority to fine operators that fail to address complaints and revoke their operations permit if they consistently fail to abide by the rules."

Seattle, Washington To Hire 12 Unarmed, Noncommissioned Officers

The Seattle Times (6/25, Contreras) reports, "The city of Seattle is supplementing the ranks of police by hiring 12 unarmed, noncommissioned officers to respond to noncriminal calls and help connect people with social services." According to the Times, "By bringing back the department's community service officer program, the city hopes to free up police officers to focus on criminal activity and increase community engagement. The program initially ran for 33 years before getting defunded in 2004." The Times adds, "The department's 12 community service officers (CSOs) will include two supervisors. 'I am pleased that this program is being restored and will once again support our police officers in their work to promote public safety in our neighborhoods,' said Police Chief Carmen Best in a statement."

Irish Government Approves Gardaí Use Of Body Cameras

The Irish Times (6/25, Bray) reports, "Gardaí will be equipped with body cameras under new plans which have been agreed by the Government" on Tuesday. Minister for Justice Charlie Flanagan "received Cabinet approval to draft new legislation which will allow gardaí to wear the body cameras." The devices "will capture 'a clear unambiguous record of particular events and interactions such as at public order protests,' Mr Flanagan said." According to the Times, "The Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland previously noted that the technologies available to An Garda Síochána were limited and outdated and it proposed a plan strategy for digital innovation which included the roll-out of body-worn cameras."

Atlanta, Georgia Police Working To Ensure Safety For Road Race

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution (6/25, Stevens) reports, "Long before any sneakers hit the pavement for Atlanta's signature summer event, the city's police and fire departments are working to ensure the safety of the thousands of participants and spectators expected to join in the sweaty fun of the AJC Peachtree Road Race on July 4." According to the AJC, "There's a likelihood for even bigger crowds than usual this year because the race will be the 50th run through downtown," but "Atlanta police and firefighters say they have been planning for months and are ready for their roles in making the event a success. 'Even though we've done this over and over and over, we never take anything for granted,' Atlanta police Capt. Rodney Woody told

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution."

Oakland, California Committee Approves Ban On Facial Recognition Surveillance

The San Francisco Chronicle (6/26, Ravani) reports, "The Oakland City Council's Public Safety Committee approved a resolution Tuesday to ban the use of facial recognition technology by the city, including by law enforcement, paving the way for Oakland to become the second major city in the country to do so." The Chronicle adds, "The resolution, introduced by City Council President Rebecca Kaplan, amends the city's current surveillance ordinance and bans city departments from adopting any facial recognition technology." The resolution "also prevents city departments from using information obtained by the software."

The resolutions process is the cornerstone of IACP's policy development. Through this process, the association membership addresses critical issues facing law enforcement. Resolutions direct the efforts of the IACP and serve as the guiding statement in accomplishing the work of the association. Each year, individual members, committees, sections, and divisions are given the opportunity to submit resolutions for the membership's consideration. The submission deadline for 2019 resolutions is August 27, 2019. If you would like to submit a resolution, please send it to resolutions@theiacp.org. For more information on how the Resolutions process works, including how to craft a resolution, click here.

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COMMUNITY

Washington Township, New Jersey Police Department Creates Citizen Police Academy

NJ News (6/25, Fitchett) reports, "A group of Washington Township residents gathered at Washington Township Police Department on Monday evening for their first night of Citizen Police Academy." Washington Township Police Chief Patrick Gurcsik and officer Joe Rowson "welcomed a group of five residents from the Washington Township area to their first night at the academy." Residents 18 years or older "could apply for this four-week program, being held from June 24 to July 17," and "the group will meet twice a week and discuss a multitude of different topics. 'In my role as chief we decided to change the mission statement a little. We wanted to focus more on community outreach,' Gurcsik said. 'We wanted to reach out to the citizens, so they get a better understanding through the eye of the average person, what police work is like every day.'"

CRIME & DRUGS

Six Arrested In UK, Netherlands In Bitcoin Scam

The Daily Mail (UK) (6/25) reports, "Six people have been arrested in the UK and the Netherlands following the theft of more than £22million worth of cryptocurrency from more than 4,000 victims." According to the Daily Mail, "Five men and one woman, aged between 19 and 37 were arrested simultaneously in Somerset, Wiltshire, Amsterdam and Rotterdam at 7am yesterday morning." The warrants "are part of an ongoing investigation led by South West Regional Cyber Crime Unit (SW RCCU) and police in the Netherlands over the last 14 months." The investigation "relates to 'typosquatting', otherwise known as 'URL hijacking', which relies on mistakes or typos by Internet users while inputting a website address into a web browser."

Authorities Searching For "Big Box Bandit"

The Durham (NC) Herald Sun (6/25) reports, "The FBI calls the wanted man the "Big Box Bandit" because he's hit two banks inside Walmart stores, the feds say. He's also robbed banks in North Carolina and Indiana, according to the FBI." The Herald Sun adds, "The FBI says the suspect most recently carjacked someone in Knoxville, Tennessee on June 21 and then used the car to rob a check-cashing business in a Chattanooga Walmart the same day." The man "robbed an FSNB bank in a Walmart in Clinton, Tennessee last month, the FBI said in a press release. 'A few days later, the same man entered another FSNB bank branch inside a Walmart in Kingsport, Tennessee, carrying a manila envelope. In both robberies, the man entered the banks and demanded money be placed in the provided envelope,' the FBI said."

Four Charged In Drug Raid Involving California Hells Angels Head

The Sacramento (CA) Bee (6/25, Tracy, Farrow) reports, "The president of the Modesto Hells Angels Motorcycle Club, his wife and two others on Tuesday were charged with conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine, according to the US Attorney's Office." According to the Bee, "As part of the investigation, officers served search warrants on Tuesday in seven locations in Stanislaus County, including the clubhouse of the Hells Angels Motorcycle Club on Seventh Street in downtown Modesto." The Bee adds, "Charged in the criminal complaint are Modesto residents Randy Picchi, 61, president of the club; his wife Tina Picchi, 51; Michael Mize, 61; and Michael Pack, 32, a prospect with the club."

Suspected Serial Rapist Sentenced To Ten Years In Minnesota Cold-Case Murder

The Minneapolis Star Tribune (6/22, Jany) reports, "For years, the families of Darrell Rea's victims wondered if the man who police say raped and strangled several women across Minneapolis in the 1980s would ever be punished for his alleged crimes," and "on Tuesday, they got their answer, which they called 'ridiculous' for its brevity." Rea, 64, "who was found guilty of second-degree murder last month in the previously unsolved slaying of teenager Lorri Mesedahl, was sentenced to just over 10 years in prison for the murder." Prosecutors "say Rea bludgeoned Mesedahl to death with an unknown object, likely after picking the teenager up hitchhiking late on a chilly spring night in 1983." According to the Star Tribune, "Police have long suspected Rea in a number of other unsolved cases, ranging from rape to murder, several of which involved young women who were picked up on the street and physically and sexually assaulted."

Pennsylvania Man Claims He Built Bomb To Warn About Alien Threat

The AP (6/25) reports from Myerstown, Pennsylvania, "Authorities say a man who allegedly placed a homemade bomb in a parking lot behind a Pennsylvania hotel told them he did it to warn police about aliens bent on destroying the planet." According to the AP, "State troopers responded to the Bahney House in Myerstown on Sunday," and "they discovered a suspicious package and 29-year-old David Oxenrider." Authorities "say Oxenreider told police he had an encounter with aliens in 2014," and "he says they told him that if humans didn't 'start being good people,' they would destroy the planet with a nuclear laser beam." Oxenrider "is charged with manufacturing a weapon of mass destruction, causing or risking a catastrophe and reckless endangerment."

TECHNOLOGY

New York City Police To Deploy New Technology To Keep Drones Away From Gay Pride Parade

The New York Daily News (6/25, Parascandola) reports, "The NYPD vowed on Tuesday to keep this weekend's massive Gay Pride Parade free of terror, harassment – and drones." According to the Daily News, "Police have purchased anti-drone technology and will have sensors positioned along the parade route and around the closing ceremony in Times Square, according to NYPD Chief of Counterterrorism James Waters. 'The sensors will identify to us, will alert us to, a drone flying in the air,' Waters said. 'And then we'll identify the user and interdict.'" The Daily News adds, "That likely means finding the drone operator as quickly as possible. While technology allows the military and intelligence agencies to jam radio frequency signals or take over control of a drone, it is illegal for US law enforcement to do so," and "a downed drone could injure people on the ground."

Excessive Testing Adds To DNA Backlog In Illinois

WBEZ-FM Chicago (6/25, Smith) reports, "Police and prosecutors are failing to exercise discretion when submitting DNA evidence for testing to the Illinois State Police crime lab, contributing to a massive testing backlog that delays justice for crime victims, keeps defendants locked in jail and makes it harder for Chicago police to solve crimes, according to experts." According to WBEZ-FM, "Law enforcement agencies may be well-intentioned in their efforts to build strong cases, but experts say advances in DNA technology require greater judgment from investigators and prosecutors before evidence is submitted for testing."

GLOBAL SECURITY

FBI Holds Training For Alabama Worship Leaders

WAAY-TV Huntsville, AL (6/25, Head) reports, "On Tuesday, the FBI helped local worship leaders form active shooter plans, in case of an emergency." The FBI "has done this training in other areas, but this marks the first time they have come to the Rocket City." The FBI "partnered with the Department of Homeland Security and Infraguard to show church leaders how to develop active shooter plans and address hate crimes. 'If you've watched the news in the last couple of years, you see Charleston. You see San Diego, Milwaukee and the list continues, and so it's preparation and prevention that's the focus for today's program,' Paul Daymond said, a spokesperson for the FBI of Birmingham division."

TUESDAY'S LEAD STORIES

- **Supreme Court: Federal Law Unconstitutionally Vague In Defining "Crime Of Violence"**

- **“Operation Broken Heart” Nets 63 Arrests For Child Exploitation In Louisiana**
- **Dutch Emergency Services Restored After Major Telecoms Outage**
- **Belgian Police Arrests Suspect In Planned Attack Against US Embassy**

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